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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 10th March 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Panchayat Board for Feroke

* 1219 *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state why the Government have not yet constituted a Village Panchayat Board in Feroke, South Malabar?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" The notification constituting a panchayat for the village with effect from 3rd April 1955 has since been issued."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Government know that this locality is very thickly populated and the population will be about 20,000? May I know why the Government should delay the constitution of the panchayat Board? Is it not a fact that, that locality being an industrial centre, the Government want to help the industrialists by delaying the constitution of the panchayat board so that they may not pay any taxes? May I also know whether the Government will take steps to constitute the panchayat board as early as possible? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Sir, it was kept in abeyance in view of the district board elections held in 1954. There is no such intention on the part of the Government to help the industrialists as alleged by the hon. Member."

Minimum wages for tobacco workers

* 1220 *Q*.—SRI R. KRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to revise the minimum wages fixed for tobacco workers in the State;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any memoranda or resolutions from labour unions and others in the matter;